



Today's Daily

■ 8MFY17 Cement Dispatches Review

According to latest APCMA data release, total cement dispatches during Feb'17 dipped 0.4%YoY to 3.435mn tons where faltering exports (-45.7%YoY to 0.254mn tons in Feb'17) were the major culprit behind weaker dispatches. Though we believe that sharp fall in exports during the month has been a one-off event, exports continue to remain under pressure from rising fuel prices/other input costs and import/anti-dumping duties making it more difficult for Pakistan's exported cement to compete against the indigenous cement. While domestic demand started to pick up (+6.7%YoY to 2.581mn tons in Feb'17) after dismal show in Jan'17 due to heavy rainfall, it failed to reach its recent trend of double digits growth. On a cumulative basis, total dispatches growth reached 6.4%YoY in 8MFY17 vs. 8.7%YoY in 8MFY16 primarily due to relatively slower domestic demand growth of 9.1%YoY in 8MFY17 vs.17.5%YoY in 8MFY16. We anticipate total dispatches growth to improve in upcoming months as construction activity picks up pace on higher PSDP spending in 2HFY17 (40% unutilized federal PSDP at the end of Feb'17) and record level growth in private sector credit related to construction activity (+24.20%YoY). In this backdrop, we maintain our Overweight stance on the cement sector, where our top picks include GWLC (TP: PkR104/share), FCCL (TP: PkR57/share) and MLCF (TP: PkR152/share).

KSE100 - Index

Current	49,434.89
Previous	49,623.81
Chg.	-0.38%

Mkt Cap. (PkRbn/US\$bn)

Current	9,780 / 93.28
Previous	9,815 / 93.61
Chg.	-0.36%

Daily Turnover (mn)

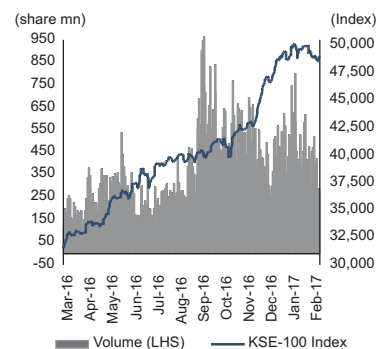
Current	302.80
Previous	392.03
Chg.	-22.8%

Value Traded (PkRmn/US\$m)

Current	9,653 / 92.06
Previous	17,272 / 164.73
Chg.	-44.1%

News and Views

- Nepra has put an end to upfront tariff regime, while tariff to the new solar PV power projects in the country would be awarded through competitive bidding.
- Chinese Ambassador has said that CPEC is open and inclusive to all countries and the ports in the region should complement each other. He further said that all projects under CPEC were ahead of the schedule and would be completed well on time.
- Special assistant to the PM on investment and chairman of the Bol, said that the GoP would sympathetically consider PAAPAM's proposal for removal of regulatory duty on 'auto grade steel' in the coming budget.



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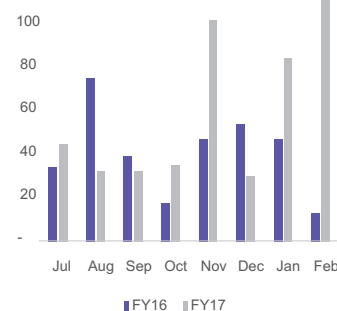
8MFY17 Cement Dispatches Review

According to latest APCMA data release, total cement dispatches during Feb'17 dipped 0.4%YoY to 3.435mn tons where faltering exports (-45.7%YoY to 0.254mn tons in Feb'17) were the major culprit behind weaker dispatches. Though we believe that sharp fall in exports during the month has been a one-off event, exports continue to remain under pressure from rising fuel prices/other input costs and import/anti-dumping duties making it more difficult for Pakistan's exported cement to compete against the indigenous cement. While domestic demand started to pick up (+6.7%YoY to 2.581mn tons in Feb'17) after dismal show in Jan'17 due to heavy rainfall, it failed to reach its recent trend of double digits growth. On a cumulative basis, total dispatches growth reached 6.4%YoY in 8MFY17 vs. 8.7%YoY in 8MFY16 primarily due to relatively slower domestic demand growth of 9.1%YoY in 8MFY17 vs.17.5%YoY in 8MFY16. We anticipate total dispatches growth to improve in upcoming months as construction activity picks up pace on higher PSDP spending in 2HFY17 (40% unutilized federal PSDP at the end of Feb'17) and record level growth in private sector credit related to construction activity (+24.20%YoY). In this backdrop, we maintain our Overweight stance on the cement sector, where our top picks include GWLC (TP: PkR104/share), FCCL (TP: PkR57/share) and MLCF (TP: PkR152/share).

Dispatches review: According to APCMA's latest numbers, total cement dispatches during Feb'17 fell 0.4%YoY to 3.435mn tons as exports experienced a sharp fall of 45.7%YoY/32.5%MoM to 0.254mn tons. While subsiding rainfall helped domestic demand growth to recover (+6.7%YoY/+16.9%MoM to 2.581mn tons in Feb'17), it failed to reach its recent trend of double digits growth. Sharp increase in federal PSDP expenditures (up 8.63x YoY/35.5%MoM to PkR115bn in Feb'17) and record high construction related private sector credit (up 24.0%YoY to PkR162bn) also failed to materially lift domestic demand growth. On cumulative basis, total dispatches growth reached 6.4%YoY in 8MFY17 vs. 8.7%YoY in 8MFY16 primarily due to relatively slower domestic demand growth of 9.1%YoY in 8MFY17 vs.17.5%YoY in 8MFY16.

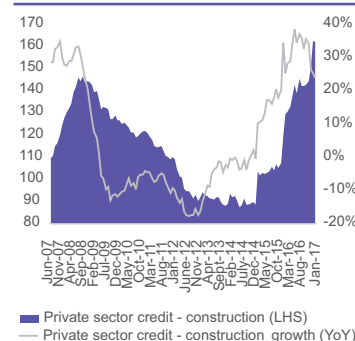
Export slump likely a one-off: Exports fell sharply during the month by 45.7%YoY/32.5%MoM to 0.254mn tons in Feb'17. Plunge in exports during the month is likely a one-off, however, exports continue to remain under pressure due to rising fuel prices/other input costs and import/anti-dumping duties making it more difficult for Pakistan's exported cement to compete against the indigenous cement. On an overall basis, exports during 8MFY17 fell by 8.5%YoY compared with 22.5%YoY decline in 8MFY16, indicating that exports are now settling at a new normal level.

PSDP Monthly Expenditures (Pkr bn)



Source: PC & AKD Research

Private sector credit - Construction (Pkrbn)



Source: SBP & AKD Research



Demand Outlook: We anticipate domestic demand growth to resume its double digits growth as construction activity is expected to pick pace due to higher PSDP spending in 2HFY17 (40% unutilized federal PSDP at the end of Feb'17) and record level growth in private sector credit related to construction activity (+24.20%YoY in Jan'17). Also, increasing trend of personal housing loans (+22.1%YoY in Jan'17), rapid private infrastructure development (+61.8%YoY in Jan'17) and recent reversal in declining trend of building loans further support our thesis.

Risks: Backed by robust domestic demand growth (+9.1%YoY in 8MFY17), the industry utilization is up 2.7ppt to 84.2% during 8MFY17. Industry utilization is expected to further go up in the upcoming months due to seasonal increase in construction activity during summers together with higher release of unutilized PSDP, resulting in higher demand. Constrained capacities of major players (most operating close to 90% utilization) may potentially create supply pressures until new capacities totaling 26.15mn tpa come online between 2017-19. A delay in expansions can lead the companies to miss out on the high growth period keeping in mind the government's enhanced focus on executing infrastructure development and rise in private housing development. On the other hand, rampant capacity additions are expected to result in utilization levels falling to 65.4% by FY19F from 85.2% in FY16. While it can result in pricing pressures when new capacities stream online, we believe that industry may not need to compete on pricing if domestic demand continues to sustain the double digit growth momentum. In this regard, we estimate utilization levels to reach 88.9% by FY23 based on our average domestic demand growth forecast of 9% (using GDP growth multiplier of 2.44x) and flatter exports. However, we flag significant risk of pricing indiscipline if domestic demand growth falters.

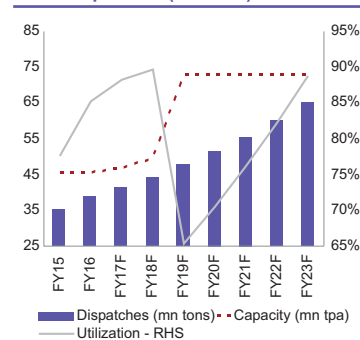
Investment Perspective: Though total dispatches growth has remained slower in recent months, we anticipate domestic demand growth to clock in double digits going forward led by higher infrastructure development in 2HFY17 (federal PSDP expenditures growth: +44.5%YoY in 8MFY17; construction related private sector credit growth: +24.0%YoY in Jan'17; reversal in declining trend of building loans). Additionally, expansion led volumetric growth, expected decline in energy costs from anticipated correction in coal price and addition of energy diversification projects are likely to provide significant lift in earnings. As such, we maintain our Overweight stance on the cement sector, where our top picks include GWLC (TP: PkR104/share), FCCL (TP: PkR57/share) and MLCF (TP: PkR152/share).

Utilization

Utilization	8MFY17	8MFY16	YoY (ppt)
LUCK	88.6%	86.2%	2.4%
DGKC	105.1%	98.3%	6.8%
MLCF	96.2%	90.4%	5.8%
FCCL	85.7%	81.0%	4.7%
CHCC	53.9%	91.1%	-37.3%
PIOC	64.4%	63.4%	1.0%
KOHC	80.9%	81.1%	-0.2%
ACPL	114.5%	106.5%	8.0%
FECTC	97.6%	88.9%	8.6%
North	82.2%	79.7%	2.5%
South	92.7%	88.8%	3.9%
Industry	84.2%	81.4%	2.7%

Source: APCMA & AKD Research

Total Dispatches (mn tons)



Source: APCMA & AKD Research



Industry Dispatches (K tons)

Local	Feb-17	Feb-16	YoY	Jan-17	MoM	8MFY17	8MFY16	YoY
LUCK	498	483	3.2%	466	6.9%	3,711	3,372	10.1%
DGKC	351	337	4.0%	293	19.4%	2,557	2,343	9.1%
MLCF	247	244	1.3%	214	15.1%	1,836	1,665	10.3%
FCCL	265	232	14.4%	234	13.3%	1,849	1,627	13.6%
CHCC	123	71	72.6%	91	34.9%	720	524	37.3%
PIOC	126	114	11.0%	110	14.5%	860	825	4.2%
KOHC	165	171	-3.2%	137	20.4%	1,278	1,241	3.0%
ACPL	136	132	3.0%	139	-1.5%	1,009	883	14.2%
FECTC	55	52	7.2%	40	40.1%	438	382	14.7%
North	2,581	2,429	6.3%	2,130	21.1%	18,641	17,219	8.3%
South	600	553	8.5%	591	1.5%	4,157	3,673	13.2%
Industry	3,181	2,982	6.7%	2,722	16.9%	22,798	20,892	9.1%
Exports	Feb-17	Feb-16	YoY	Jan-17	MoM	8MFY17	8MFY16	YoY
LUCK	54	133	-59.3%	75	-27.5%	866	1,080	-19.8%
DGKC	35	51	-31.9%	52	-33.5%	401	425	-5.6%
MLCF	25	50	-51.1%	39	-37.0%	326	367	-11.3%
FCCL	6	26	-78.6%	10	-46.1%	112	227	-50.6%
CHCC	18	13	39.6%	21	-11.7%	151	146	3.9%
PIOC	3	4	-23.6%	2	96.4%	11	32	-64.8%
KOHC	7	24	-69.8%	14	-47.6%	98	139	-29.6%
ACPL	28	44	-37.8%	43	-35.9%	361	392	-7.8%
FECTC	9	18	-48.2%	14	-35.3%	95	104	-8.7%
North	163	297	-45.1%	264	-38.0%	2,385	2,458	-3.0%
South	90	170	-46.9%	112	-19.7%	1,156	1,413	-18.2%
Industry	254	467	-45.7%	376	-32.5%	3,541	3,872	-8.5%
Total	Feb-17	Feb-16	YoY	Jan-17	MoM	8MFY17	8MFY16	YoY
LUCK	552	616	-10.3%	541	2.1%	4,577	4,452	2.8%
DGKC	385	388	-0.7%	346	11.5%	2,958	2,767	6.9%
MLCF	271	294	-7.7%	253	7.1%	2,162	2,032	6.4%
FCCL	271	258	4.9%	245	10.8%	1,961	1,854	5.8%
CHCC	142	85	67.4%	112	26.2%	871	670	30.1%
PIOC	129	118	9.8%	112	15.7%	871	858	1.6%
KOHC	172	194	-11.4%	151	14.2%	1,376	1,379	-0.3%
ACPL	164	177	-7.2%	182	-9.7%	1,371	1,275	7.5%
FECTC	64	69	-6.8%	54	20.4%	533	486	9.7%
North	2,744	2,726	0.7%	2,394	14.6%	21,026	19,677	6.9%
South	691	723	-4.5%	704	-1.9%	5,312	5,087	4.4%
Industry	3,435	3,449	-0.4%	3,098	10.9%	26,339	24,764	6.4%

Source: APCMA & AKD Research



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